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APR 27 2007

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/720,308 Confirmation No. 4719  
Applicant : Y. KANEDA et al  
Filed : November 25, 2003  
Title : A DATA STORAGE APPARATUS HAVING A CONTROL UNIT  
PROVIDING A VIRTUAL DISK DRIVE UNIT WHICH PERMITS  
A COMPUTER TO RECOGNIZE REMOVABLE STORAGE  
MEDIA HANDLING CAPABILITY (As Amended)  
TC/AU : 2185  
Examiner : A.P. Savla  
Docket No. : TMI-5008  
Customer No.: 24956

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop AF  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action (Final Rejection) of December 27, 2006,  
please amend the above-identified application as follows. A Request for Continued  
Examination (RCE) and a Petition for a one-month Extension of Time and  
appropriate fees also accompany this response.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on  
page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks / Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.